



CALIFORNIA VETERANS BOARD

Meeting Minutes #728

October 21, 2010



Tom Moran, Chair
Thomas Richards, Vice Chair
Vernon Chong, Board Member

Donna L. Dacier, Board Member
Derek McGinnis, Board Member
Glenn Yokum, Board Member

The California Veterans Board met in Sacramento at the California Department of Veterans Affairs at 9:00 AM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Tom Moran, Chair, Thomas Richards, Vice Chair, Vernon Chong, Member, Donna Dacier, Member, Derek McGinnis, Member, Glenn Yokum, Member
Chairman Moran presided.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

WELCOMING REMARKS/INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Moran welcomed the group in attendance and thanked them for attending the meeting. The Chair then asked the Board Members to introduce themselves and give a little of their background. He then introduced the Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs, Roger Brautigan.

Secretary Brautigan welcomed the group and introduced the Department staff, Undersecretary Rocky Chavez, Chief Legal Counsel Rob Wilson, Deputy Secretary of Communications and Legislation J.P. Tremblay, Assistant Secretary of Native American Affairs Pete Molina, Barstow Home Administrator Art Robles, Budget Officer Patricia Ingram, and Brian Kaplan of Veterans Services.

MINUTES

Executive Officer, Bonnie Kelly

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the minutes of the August 19, 2010 Board minutes. Member Chong moved to approve the minutes. Member Richards seconded.
Motion unanimously approved and carried.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Appeal: Jerry Jaramillo

The Board unanimously voted to uphold the decision of the Farm and Home Division to deny loan pre-approval for Mr. Jaramillo.

DEPARTMENT FORUM

A. Vet Courts and Update by Vet Services

Brian Kaplan announced that there are currently five Veteran courts in Los Angeles, Orange County, San Bernardino, Santa Clara and Tulare County. Plans are underway to add two more in San Diego and Alameda counties in March, and later an additional three in Monterey, Contra Costa and Placer Counties. Mr. Kaplan also advised that the Homeless Coordinator is working on a five year plan of action to eliminate homelessness for Veterans in California.

B. Native American Veterans Update

Assistant Secretary Pete Molina updated the Board on the activities he's promoting and participating in for Native American Veterans.

C. Budget

Patricia Ingram gave the Board an overview of the new budget and how it impacts the Department's programs and Homes.

D. New Homes Update

Stan Oppgaard reported on the status of the Homes and the progress of the new homes.

E. Significant Matters

Rob Wilson updated the Board on the pending Yountville litigation.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Receive Appeal

Chair Moran deemed the Farm and Home appeals by James Holmes and Theresa Cutino received. Their appeals will be heard at the next meeting, if not resolved.

An appeal for an Informal Hearing filed by Juan Nelmidia on a home coverage claim was delegated to the Office of Administrative Hearings to be conducted by an Administrative Law Judge. This was decided due to the complexity and technical nature of the issue. The Administrative Law Judge will submit the proposed decision to the Board for a final decision.

B. Stolen Valor Presentation

Tom Richards gave a presentation on the search to identify individuals in violation of the Stolen Valor Act claiming military service and honors they did not earn.

C. Committee Appointments

The committee appointments were approved as presented. These appointments are listed on the CalVet Board's website.

COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

A. Women's Conference

Member Dacier complimented Barbara Ward on the success of the recent Women's Conference which she attended. She described the event as very worthwhile and beneficial to female Veterans.

B. Chula Vista Home Visit

Member Richards noted that he and Member Dacier arranged a visit at the Chula Vista Home where they met with Administrative Staff, Allied Council members, and residents.

ADJOURNMENT: MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:30 PM.

